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MAY 1 5 2006

\$/N 09/509,449

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

AOYAGI et al.

Examiner:

Z. LUCAS

Scrial No.:

09/509,449

Group Art Unit;

1648

Filed:

28 March 2000

Docket No.:

594.352USWO

Conf. No.:

8016

Customer No.:

23552

Title:

METHOD FOR MEASUREMENT OF HEPATITIS C VIRUS

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop AMENDMENT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed November 15, 2005, with the period for timely response extended by three months to May 15, 2006, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.